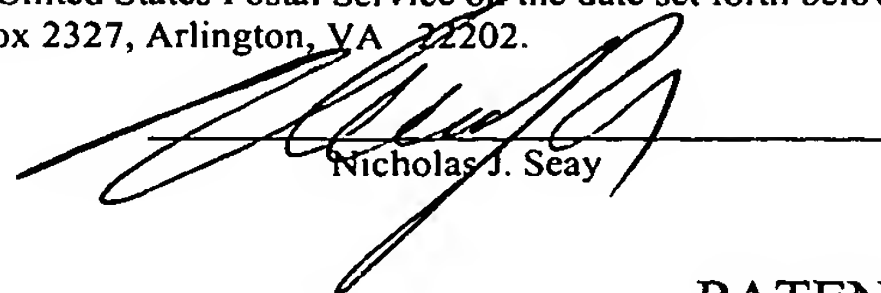




IFW 1636
#

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P O Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.

Date of Signature and Deposit: June 23, 2004


Nicholas J. Seay

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Frederick R. Blattner
Gyorgy Posfai
Christopher D. Herring
Guy Plunkett III

Date: June 23, 2004

Serial No.: 10/057,582

Group Art Unit: 1636

Filed: 01/23/2002

Examiner: Nancy S. Vogel

Title: BACTERIA WITH REDUCED GENOME

File No.: 960296.95726

RESPONSE

Commissioner For Patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement dated February 25, 2004 in the above-identified application, the applicants respond herewith as follows:

Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begins on page 10 of this paper.